

THE CHRISTIAN.

"FAITH COMETH BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD."—Paul

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A PRIVATE letter from Kempt speaks in glowing terms of the good done by Bro. William Murray in that section of the country.

THE brethren of Lubec, Maine, have succeeded in obtaining the services of a preacher; and expect him in their midst about the middle of this month.

THE coming Quarterly will be held with the church at Kempt, Queen's Co., N. S., commencing the Friday before and continuing over the second Lord's day in June.

ONE OF OUR P. E. I. BOYS. The brethren and friends of P. E. I., especially those living in and around Southport, will be pleased to learn the fact which we clip from *The Kentucky University Tablet*, that, "In the English class of sixteen the salutatory has been awarded to H. W. Stewart, Southport, P. E. I., his class-standing being the highest.

A correspondent referring to our mission writes: It is high time our brethren were waking up on this subject, I have been almost compelled to hold my peace on this subject, but I shall not in future. I shall make an effort to have a special collection taken up for Mission Work at—and get the brethren at—to become interested in this matter.

THE MISSION AND EDUCATIONAL FUND. Some of our readers may be anxious to know the result of our interview with the persons named by our April correspondent. We have had opportunity to see but two or three of them. Two of them *there* and *then* handed over the money, the other was favorably impressed that something should and must be done for the cause in these parts, and your present correspondent was as favorably impressed that this brother would do something in this direction and that before long. Brethren, don't wait for us to write you, but help us at once in the work of the Lord. Remember we are not begging, we are simply asking you to give the Lord His share of the fruits of the vineyard entrusted to your care. Should there appear in this appeal an unpleasant feature it is not in what some disordered judgment might call begging, but that brethren should need to be begged.

SIX persons were convicted of violating the Scott Act at Fredericton, each one being sentenced to two months imprisonment and a fine of \$100.

Commenting upon this, *The Evening Gazette*, of this city, editorially says:

"These cases all arose in the city of Fredericton and were by all odds the most important of any that have been decided in this province, because they bring the people for the first time face to face with a realizing sense of what the Scott Act means when pushed to the last extremity.

* * * Thus six otherwise respectable citizens of Fredericton will spend the next two months of their lives in jail and be subjected to a very heavy fine. It is well that this matter has been brought up in its present shape, because it enables those who are in favor of the Scott Act to see clearly the full extent of the folly, we might almost say the iniquity, of this law. The selling of liquor is converted by it into a crime, and as a result the business will pass into the hands of disreputable and lawless men who care nothing for imprisonment, and who have no regard as to the quality of the article which they sell."

The Scott Act has had a hard time of it. Its opponents have argued that it could not be enforced, and when the possibility of its enforcement has, to some extent, been shown, then the cry is, It's unjust! It's cruel! But why express sympathy for these men if guilty? On three occasions the people of Fredericton have voted for its adoption. These men knew it was in force, they could not plead ignorance of its provisions. When selling the rum they were carrying on an *illegal traffic*. Were they not committing a crime? Was not the traffic (don't call it business), when carried on by them, in the hands of disreputable and lawless men? The Scott Act has, no doubt, its defects, but those persons not wishing to violate it have nothing to fear, for the "law is not made for the righteous, but for the lawless and disobedient," etc.

THE BIBLE. Said the Psalmist:

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, wrote:

"All scripture given by inspiration of God is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Prof Huxley:

Take the Bible, as a whole, and there remains in this old literature a vast residuum of moral beauty and grandeur, and then consider the great historical fact that for three centuries this book has been woven into the life of all that is best and noblest in English history, that it is written in the noblest and purest English, and abounds in exquisite beauties of literary form, and finally, that it forbids the veriest hind who never left his native village to be ignorant of the existence of other countries, and other civilizations, and of a great past stretching back to the fullest limits of the oldest nations in the world. By the study of what other books could children be so much humanized?

Says Theodore Parker:

This collection of books has taken such a hold as has no other. The literature of Greece, which goes up like incense from the lands of temples and heroic deeds, has not half the influence of this book from a nation alike despised in ancient and modern times. The sun never sets on its gleaming page. It goes equally to the cottage of the plain man and the palace of the king. It is woven into the literature of the scholar, and it colors the talk of the street. It blesses us when we are born; gives names to half Christendom; rejoices with us; has sympathy for our mourning; tempers our grief to finer issues. Some thousand famous writers come up in this century to be forgotten in the next. But the silver cord of the Bible is not loosed, nor its golden

bow broken as time chronicles his tons of centuries passed by. Some of the greatest of human institutions seem built on the Bible; such things will not stand on heaps of chaff, but on mountains of rock.

THE value of Christianity is thus set forth by the utterances of these by no means weak minded witnesses. Daniel Webster wrote to the Earl of Shaftesbury, May 27, 1840, who had given him a Bible.

You could have given me nothing more acceptable, and I shall keep it near me as a valued token of your regard. The older I grow the more I read the Holy Scriptures, the more reverence I have for them, and the more convinced I am that they are not only the best guide for this life, but the foundation of all hope respecting a future state of existence." Such testimony from such a man is of more weight than the objection of all infidels and agnostics.

M. Mhegard, of Copenhagen, until lately the Danish apostle of atheism, has just written a new introduction to his works which contains the following:

The experience of life, its sufferings and griefs, have shaken my soul and have broken the foundation upon which I formerly thought I could build. Full of faith in the sufficiency of science, I thought to have found in it a sure refuge from all the contingencies of life. This illusion is vanished. When the tempest came which plunged me in sorrow, the moorings, the cable of science, broke like a thread. Then I seized upon that help which many before me have laid hold of. I sought and found peace in God. Since then I have certainly not abandoned science, but I have assigned to it another place.

Bismarck:

If I were not a Christian I would not serve the king my master; if I did not obey God, if I did not put my trust in Him, I would not concern myself about the affairs of this world. Were I not a decided Christian, if my faith did not rest on the miraculous basis of a revealed religion, you would not have in me a federal chancellor. When you find me a man for a successor who is impregnated with the same principles I will at once resign, rejoiced to be again free to follow a country.

DISCIPLES IN AUSTRALIA.

SOME of our readers do not know that there are more than 3,200 Disciples in the city of Melbourne, Australia. There are 25 churches; 18 of which have their own buildings. In Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, and New Zealand our people are stronger in the cities than in the country. In Victoria Colony are more than 70 churches and nearly 6,000 members, and all the larger and more influential congregations are in the cities.

D. A. Ewers, writing from Australia to the *Christian Evangelist*, says he thinks one reason for the success of the brethren in the cities is that many intelligent public workers in addition to regular preachers have been engaged. Many men of education and ability take the leading part in Sunday morning meetings for worship, frequently speaking in the largest churches, and preaching in the evening for the weaker churches. In connection with nearly every church in Australia there is an Adelpian class, or young men's training class, which help to bring and develop their talents.

The visit of Brother and Sister Wharton to Australia did great good in arousing an interest in foreign missions. The Annual Conference of Associated Churches of Christ in South Australia was held in March. The statistics showed a membership of 2,000 and a net gain of 235.—*Wis. Weekly*.